



Benefit Performance
IN AID OF THE
PEOPLE'S LEAGUE OF HEALTH

Patron and Royal Founder
HIS MAJESTY THE KING



*Founded in 1917 by
Miss Olga Nethersole, R.R.C.*

PROGRAMME

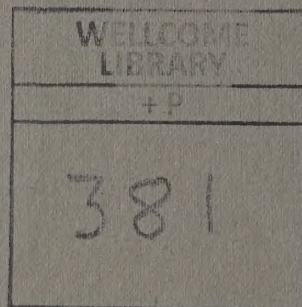
WYNDHAM'S THEATRE

By kind permission of Frank Curzon,
Esq. and Sir Gerald du Maurier

Monday, July 2nd, 1923, at 2.30

The Nation has constantly been urged to stop wasting wealth and to organise all resources for increased production. But the real source of wealth lies in Motherhood, the Cradle and the Healthy Nurture of Children, and it is there that waste is irreparable. Increased production of wealth depends upon achieving and maintaining a higher standard of national health. The immediate obstacle is inefficiency due to preventable disease. **Only by means of education can this obstacle be removed.**

"It is better to erect a strong fence at the top of the cliff than to maintain a working ambulance at the bottom."



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Photo by Lafayette

HIS MAJESTY THE KING

Patron and Royal Founder

The PEOPLE'S LEAGUE *of* HEALTH

(INCORP.)

"A Nation's Health is a Nation's Wealth"



Photo H. Craely, Metropole Studios, Cardiff

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THE PEOPLE'S LEAGUE OF HEALTH

**"Knowledge is the only armour of Defence
of which we cannot be robbed by an enemy."**

Patron and Royal Founder - HIS MAJESTY THE KING

Founded, August, 1917, by Miss OLGA NETHERSOLE, R.R.C., Hon. Organiser.

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1. **THE object of the League** shall be the raising of the Standard of Health of the British Empire.

2. The League shall enquire into the social and industrial conditions which affect the health of the nation, and shall use its strength and means to improve the social and economic conditions of the community, working where possible with the legally constituted authorities, and with voluntary bodies with similar objects.

3. The League shall disseminate knowledge on Health—how to obtain and preserve it.

4. Lectures and Demonstrations shall be given by members of the Medical Profession and others.

5. The League shall consist of (a) Founders, (b) Life Fellows, (c) Fellows, (d) Associate Fellows, (e) Members, (f) Associates.

Donors of £100 or more shall be known as Founders of the League.

Donors of £10 shall be entitled to Life Fellowship of the League.

Subscribers of £2 annually shall be Fellows of the League.

Subscribers of £1 annually shall be Associate Fellows of the League.

Members shall subscribe not less than 5/- annually.

Associates not less than 1/- annually.

Annual Subscribers of £2 and over shall be entitled to attend all lectures and public meetings arranged by the League and receive copies of all publications issued by the League.

Annual Subscribers of £1 shall be entitled to receive a copy of all publications issued by the League and attend all public meetings.

6. Men and women enrolling as members of the League shall be entitled to wear a Badge of Membership and to attend the courses of instruction organised by their Branch. Those successful in the examinations, to be held periodically by the Medical Officers of the League, shall be presented with a Certificate of Proficiency.

7. Industrial Organisations of work-people or of employers, Approved Societies and similar *bona fide* bodies shall be eligible for affiliation to the League, the Terms as to Subscription and Representation to be fixed as circumstances require.

8. The League shall provide the necessary funds for hiring halls, printing literature, lecturers' fees, and other incidental expenses necessary for the holding of educational meetings. These shall be held also at Universities, Schools, Settlements, Government Controlled and other Factories, Public Libraries, Churches, and in the Open Air where possible. Film pictures shall be used when practicable to illustrate the lectures.

9. Public Exhibitions and Lectures will be arranged by the League in all large centres on popular as well as scientific lines, to include amongst others the following subjects:—

a. **PERSONAL (BODILY AND MENTAL) HYGIENE.**—The Value of Personal Cleanliness, Care of the Teeth, Eyes, etc.; Regular Habits; Fresh Air and Exercise; the Results of Defective Breathing.

- b.* **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.**—The encouragement of all agencies calculated to promote the welfare of mothers and young children, and to emphasise the value and dignity of Motherhood.
- c.* **EUGENICS.**—The importance of Heredity and the transmission of hereditary defects. The selection of suitable and healthy partners in marriage. The importance of worthy and responsible parenthood. The care of Mental Defectives.
- d.* **FOOD.**—Its constituents and proper proportion and value to the Human Body. Best methods of cooking, and effects of improper diet.
- e.* **ALCOHOL.**—Its use and abuse; its relation to disease and crime, and its physiological and environmental influences upon the human organism and race.
- f.* **HOUSING.**—The importance of proper housing accommodation to health and morals. The need of sufficient ground space for every house.
- g.* **PHYSICAL EDUCATION.**—The value of physical exercise and organised games, and their effect on mental and physical health.
- h.* **TUBERCULOSIS.**—Showing the modern methods of cure and of prevention of tuberculosis in the home, the factory and the workshop.
- i.* **VENEREAL DISEASE.**—The furtherance of the educational campaign against this scourge.
- j.* **LEGISLATION AND HEALTH.**

10. The League shall promote the establishment of Recreation Clubs and proper facilities for their development.

11. An object of the League shall be the establishment of a Relief Fund for the benefit of physical defectives. To obviate confusion or overlapping, such Fund should be used where possible, in conjunction with, and supplementary to, the administrative work of Local Statutory Bodies dealing with Health in any of its aspects.

12. It shall be the duty of the League in its corporate body, and also the duty of every member of the League, to work for the betterment of all housing conditions, food conditions, working conditions and social conditions.

It is the hope of the League that the **Mayors, Corporations and other Local Authorities** of the Empire will open Branches of the People's League of Health on the lines indicated above.

Some Startling Figures regarding Preventable Disease

INFANT MORTALITY

100,000 died before birth in 1918.

61,715 babies died in the United Kingdom before their *first* birthday.

93,639 children died before they reached the age of 5.

CHILDREN

1,000,000 children in 1917 (no later figures available as in former years) were so mentally and physically defective as to be unable to derive reasonable benefit from the education provided for them by the ratepayers.

500,000 children were suffering from mal-nutrition.

3,000,000 were suffering from dental defects.

TUBERCULOSIS

40,000 men were discharged from the Army suffering from this disease in 1917.

58,073 deaths from Tuberculosis in this Country in 1918.

77,616 fresh cases of Tuberculosis were notified in the same year.

1 out of every **7** men of working age in this Country dies of Tuberculosis.

LUNACY

96,819 persons were in Asylums under certification in England and Wales in 1919.

VENEREAL DISEASE

Estimate of the Royal Commission in 1916 is that:

10 per cent. of all inhabitants of the large towns in England and Wales have been at some time infected with Syphilis.

Most cases of Sterility among our population both male and female, **20%** of all Blindness, Deafness and all cases of Locomotor Ataxy and General Paralysis of the Insane are due to this disease.

400,000 Casualties in the British Fighting Forces in 1916 from Venereal Disease alone would probably be a moderate computation.

HOUSING

There are more than **Half a Million Houses short**, and among those now occupied are **innumerable insanitary dwellings.**

Serious and gross over-crowding, spelling inevitable disease and degeneration of race.

EFFECT OF PREVENTABLE DISEASE UPON THE MAN POWER OF THE NATION

1,000,000 Men were rejected from the Army as unfit.

"Only one man in three was normally healthy, and one man in every ten was a physical wreck."—Report of the Ministry of Pensions on the result of Medical Examination under the Military Service Acts from October 31st, 1917, to November 1st, 1918.

ARE WE NOT IN TRUTH A C 3 NATION?

14,000,000 working weeks are lost annually in this country through sickness under the Workers' Insurance Laws.

LABOUR WASTAGE

£100,000,000 a year lost to this Country through misfits in industry, lack of

1. Care of Workers.
2. Proper grouping.
3. Vocational selection.

Prof. Edgar Collis, Industrial Hygiene Chair, Cardiff University

£60,000,000 Annual Income lost to our male population by reason of its working years being cut short through early death from Tuberculosis.

The Late Prof. Benjamin Moore, D.Sc., F.R.S., Professor Bio-Chemistry, Oxford University.

WASTAGE OF MILK

In London the loss in 1916 amounted to **11,578,896** Gallons, representing a financial loss of **£161,425.**

ALIENS ADMITTED TO THIS COUNTRY

68% of foreigners examined for Military Service were Grade III. or totally rejected.

His Hon. Sir Bettesworth Piggott, President International Tribunal for London.

The following 10 Points will be the subject of future Propaganda of the League.

WE are as a nation in the process of convalescence after a long and dangerous and protracted illness lasting over four years, and we must therefore guard against economies affecting the nation's health, which in the future will prove to be false economies.

In making our selection for economies we should remember that education is needed on :—

Healthy parentage and control where the human soil is unfit.

More adequate and strictly scientific record of causes of death is required if results of far-reaching value are to follow.

More maternity hospitals needed, and maternity wards in all general hospitals, where the prospective mothers can receive proper care and attention at a minimum cost.

Increased welfare centres and education of prospective mothers.

Control of the feeble-minded.

In all new garden and other cities hot water should be laid on at the main, the furnaces used for burning of refuse to be utilised for this purpose.

A pure milk supply, and strict attention to waste due to the faulty methods of production and carriage causing splashing and souring.

The importance of recreation, mental and physical, which becomes a National one when considered as a channel of health.

More attention to early symptoms of disease, and the necessity for pressing forward all research work, especially on production and fatigue and industrial conditions in relation to health, which concerns so many millions of persons of both sexes.

The necessity for education and training of physicians for industries involving physical and physiological strain, and to determine standards of physiological requirements for various occupations, in order that we may be able to place properly all workers in industries for which they are physiologically and psychologically fitted.

The health and happiness of the nation are at stake, and also its financial security, because increased production depends upon achieving a higher standard of national health.

THE NATION'S HEALTH

Endowment Fund Appeal for £100,000

An appeal to the public for an endowment fund of £100,000 for the People's League of Health was launched on Empire Day, 1921, at a reception given by the Marchioness Curzon of Kedleston, held at 1, Carlton House Terrace.

Every effort on the part of those interested in the work of the League is earnestly sought to invite new subscribers to help in securing our endowment Fund of £100,000.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING has graciously honoured the League by sending a donation of £100 towards the Fund.

The LORD MAYOR OF LONDON has kindly consented to act as Hon. Treasurer to the Endowment Fund, and Cheques may be sent to him at The Mansion House.

All Cheques should be crossed, and made payable to

"THE PEOPLE'S LEAGUE OF HEALTH FUND."

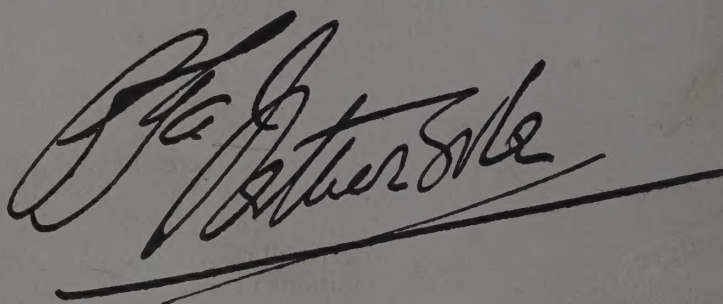
FOREWORD

"The Writing on the Wall" was presented by me in America because Trinity Church Corporation of New York then owned and controlled some of the worst slums in the city. Within a week of its production the Corporation announced in the Press that they were prepared to spend twenty million dollars on improvements to their property.

My purpose in presenting this play to an English audience, therefore, is not to pillory a repentant sinner, but to make some little effort to direct the attention of the public towards the terrible housing conditions of our own country.

No Government can act without the support of public opinion, and every single man and woman who fully realises the urgency of the slum problem becomes an additional weapon against the perils of squalor and ill-health.

"Am I my brother's keeper?" It is a cry as old as the world, and civilisation's answer—the cold decision of logic as well as the warm impulse of sentiment—is that unless you protect your brother, you yourself are left defenceless.



"The Writing on the Wall"

A Play in Four Acts

by

W. J. HURLBUT

(The characters in the order of their appearance)

Harry ....	....	....	....	Master PETER DU CALION (Pupil of Miss ITALIA CONTI)
Stella Trainor	...	....	....	Miss MADGE McINTOSH
Barbara Lawrence	....	....	....	Miss OLGA NETHERSOLE
Muriel Lawrence	....	....	....	Miss JOYCE CAREY
Peters ....	....	....	....	Mr. W. E. LANGLEY
Herbert ....	....	....	....	Mr. KENNETH J. SKEET
Lincoln Schuyler	....	....	....	Mr. WILLIAM STACK
Irving Lawrence	....	....	....	Mr. EDMUND WILLARD
Gordon Payne	....	....	....	Mr. HUGH WAKEFIELD
Christine	....	....	....	Miss SYBIL HALE
A Doctor	....	....	....	Mr. ALEXANDER SARNER

The Artistes appear by the kind permission of their respective Managements.

The action of the play passes in the Lawrence house in New York.

Before the curtain rises on the play there will be a short speech by

Mrs. HILTON PHILIPSON, M.P. (Miss Mabel Russell)

Followed by

Mr. W. MCG. EAGER, Secretary of the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association, who will show an interesting series of lantern slides, comprising photographs of some of the actual slums in New York, which were abolished through the medium of this play, equally squalid slums which exist in London and other cities of Great Britain at the present time, and charts which demonstrate the effect of one-roomed, two-roomed and three-roomed dwellings on the physical and mental development of children.

ACT 1	-	-	-	Evening. November.
ACT 2	-	-	-	Afternoon. A month later.
		<i>5 minutes' interval</i>		
ACT 3	-	-	-	Half an hour later.
		<i>4 minutes' interval</i>		
ACT 4	-	-	-	Two hours later.

The Play Produced by Mr. SYDNEY BLAND

N.B.—In the State of New York, where the action of this play takes places, infidelity on the part of either husband or wife is sufficient ground for divorce.

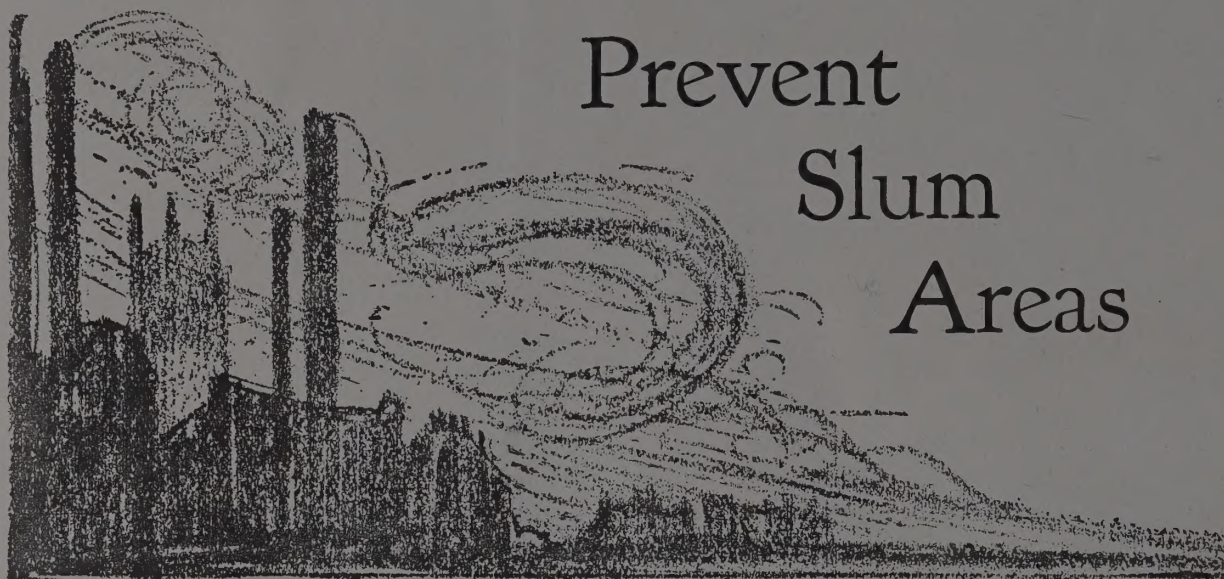
Manager	-	-	-	-	J. WOOD-INGRAM
Stage Manager	-	-	-	-	M. BALVAIRD-HEWETT
Musical Director	-	-	-	-	ERNEST BUCALOSSI
Press Manager	-	-	-	-	E. F. HANSSEN

Dresses worn by Miss Nethersole by M. CALLOT SŒURS, Paris, and Buckingham Gate.

Hat by ROSE BERTIN, Davies Street, Mayfair.

Dress worn by Miss Joyce Cary by LAVENDER, 43, Sloane Street.

EXTRACT FROM THE RULES MADE BY THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN. 1.—The name of the actual and responsible Manager of the Theatre must be printed on every play bill. 2.—The Public can leave the Theatre at the end of the performance by all exit and entrance doors, which must open outwards. 3.—Where there is a fireproof screen to the proscenium opening it must be lowered at least once during every performance to ensure its being in proper working order. 4.—Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium. 5.—All gangways, passages and staircases must be kept free from chairs or any other obstructions, whether permanent or temporary.



Prevent Slum Areas

NOW-A-DAYS much is heard of the clearing up and 'curing' of slum areas, but surely the prevention of such areas would have been better than their cure.

Slums are not built, they grow, usually from badly built and inadequately fitted houses. Anyone familiar with large towns has seen a good class neighbourhood go "down the hill" until it becomes a slum, but there is no necessity for this, since, though the class of persons may change, working class people, in places where houses have been fitted with labour saving appliances, can and do live in clean and healthy surroundings.

Labour saving devices in every new house built, combined with educational measures, are the only hope there is of preventing slum areas from arising. And what better and cheaper labour saving devices can be found than those provided by gas appliances? The gas cooker, gas water-heater, and gas wash copper alone, were they fitted in every house throughout the country, would go far to solve the problem, not only directly by saving the time and labour of the working woman on whom the cleanliness of every working class home depends, but indirectly by preventing the pollution of the air by coal smoke and thus eliminating soot and fogs. Here are two public services—the lightening of the working woman's labours, and the purifying of our cities' air—which can be much advanced by the active co-operation of all architects.

Prevention is better than cure, because it is much easier and cheaper, and gas is certainly doing much to help in the good work of prevention.

Any specific questions will be gladly answered so far as lies within our province if this programme is mentioned.



THE GAS LIGHT &
COKE COMPANY HORSEFERRY RD.
S.W. ——— 1



The Thanks of The People's League of Health are due to

The PATRONS and MEMBERS of the COMMITTEE.

Sir GERALD du MAURIER and FRANK CURZON, Esq., for kindly lending the Theatre.

The ARTISTES who have most generously given their services in the production of this New Play.

Dr. CHALMERS, M.O.H., Glasgow, for supplying Photographs of slum districts in Scotland.

Dr. EDWARD HOPE, M.O.H., Liverpool, for supplying Photographs of slum districts and improved dwellings in Liverpool.

W. Mc G. EDGAR, Esq. (Secretary of the Garden Cities and Towns Planning Association) for his Address *re* the slum conditions of this country.

Mrs. HILTON PHILIPSON, M.P., for her Opening Speech.

The PRESS for its liberal help in making the Matinee so widely known.

All those attending the Benefit Matinee Performance.

Messrs. PARTINGTON for kindly posting the Playbills in the London Tube Railways.

Those who have contributed Advertisements to this Programme.

Messrs. HAMLEY'S for Loan of Toys.

TECLA PEARLS for loaning Pearls.

THE MAYFAIR CATERING CO. for supplying Plate and China for Stage.

Mr. ALFRED DUNHILL for supplying Cigarettes.

Messrs. PAGE & SHAW, Messrs. MAYNARD'S, LTD., Messrs. JAS. PASCALL, LTD. and Messrs. S. PARKINSON & SON, LTD., for their donations of Sweets, sold in the Theatre.

W. J. HURLBUT, Esq., for lending his Play.

THE WALTURDAW CO., LTD. for loan of Lantern Screen.

Mr. T. J. DIGBY for projection of Lantern Slides.

Messrs. FARROW & JACKSON, LTD., for loaning of Cocktail Mixer used in the Play.

Programmes under the Direction of LADY LAKING

Ladies assisting :

Lady MILLS

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Miss VERA JESSELL

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Mrs. MAINWARING

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Miss RUTH KEARNEY

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Miss BERYL HANNEN

Miss BETTY HICKS

Miss RICA GOODALL

Miss EDNA BEST

Miss PAULINE LORD

Miss DOROTHY DICKSON

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C. E. Osborn, *Appeal Secretary.*

First Appeal issued by the League through the medium and generosity of the Press:

THE PEOPLE'S LEAGUE OF HEALTH,

(Headquarters) 12, STRATFORD PLACE, LONDON, W. 1.

December 6th, 1920.

As Vice-Presidents, Councillors, Officers and Founder of the People's League of Health, of which His Majesty the King is Patron, we feel it to be our duty to lay before the people of this country startling vital statistics issued by the Government Departments concerning the health of the nation.

Some of these vital statistics are laid before you in the Souvenir.

All these diseases and ills are preventable, if not curable, if only the people are told how, if only information and education are forthcoming. The health and happiness of the nation is at stake, and also its financial security, because increased production of wealth depends upon achieving and maintaining a higher standard of national health.

In the face of such terrible evidence of national evils it is obvious that no patriot can stand outside from the great work of disseminating the KNOWLEDGE which alone can mend matters.

The purpose of the League is to multiply the sources of public information and education to such an extent that no mother shall lose her child through ignorance; that no man or woman shall be stricken with disease for lack of knowledge.

It is a great and glorious work—but practical withal. It can be done with sure and speedy effect if we have the help of all who appreciate the importance of Health as a national as well as an individual aim.

We wish to emphasise the fact that there is no intention of attempting to rival the activities of existing agencies or acting in opposition to the Government.

Funds are urgently needed to carry on the work, and the appeal to all earnest citizens to add to the resources of the People's League of Health is made in the earnest hope that their financial aid will be forthcoming quickly, and we with confidence await the answer to this appeal, and your donation or annual subscription to this splendid Cause.

Cheques should be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer, The Hon. Francis Curzon, the People's League of Health, 12, Stratford Place, London, W.1, the head-quarters of the League.

Yours, etc.,

Burnham

H. R. Birmingham

Leventhal

J. R. Clynes

Grace Curzon & Redleston

Francis Curzon

Paul Methuen

Vice-Presidents.

Lay Council.

Appeal Director.

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Photo Claude Harris.

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HEATHLAND LODGE,
'VALE OF HEALTH',
HAMPSTEAD.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to His Majesty the King for graciously extending to The People's League of Health his patronage, and for becoming its Royal Founder.

To the Founders, Vice - Presidents, Councillors and all official Members who, by their generous and splendid efforts have made the League a "living thing," I give my deep and profound thanks.

To the Members of the Medical Council of the League, my debt is one which is ever increasing.

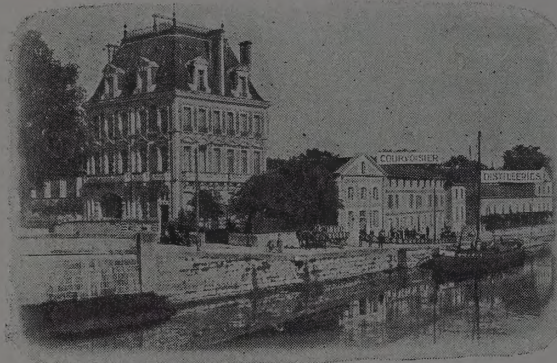
My humble tribute do I here and now lay at the foot of the noblest, the holiest profession of the civilised world—the Medical Profession. What class of people are so unselfish, so untiring in their efforts for the good of humanity, as the doctors? We all know at the bottom of their hearts lies the magnificent instinct of Humanitarianism, and that they, believing in Humanity as the Crown of Being, and following in the footsteps of the Christ, devote their brains and their time to the healing of the sick and the maimed.

Pauline M. H. H.

COURVOISER

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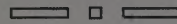
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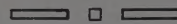
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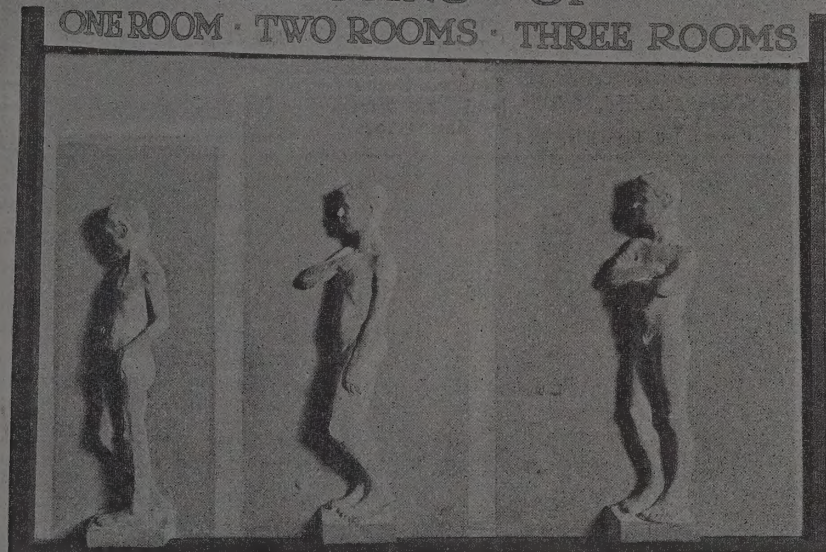


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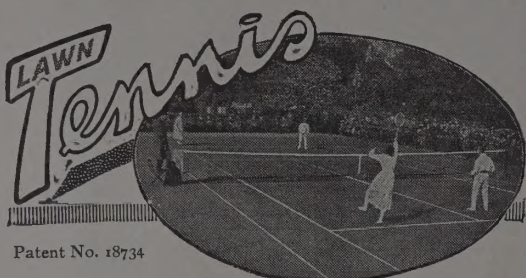
MODEL SHOWING CONTRAST IN DEVELOPMENT
OF CHILDREN OF AVERAGE AGE LIVING IN HOMES
— CONSISTING OF —
ONE ROOM · TWO ROOMS · THREE ROOMS



COMPARISON OF MALE CHILDREN ACCORDING TO
SIZE OF HOUSE. PERCENTAGES.

DEATH RATES	SIZE OF HOUSE IN ROOMS	MEAN HEIGHT IN INCHES	MEAN WEIGHT IN POUNDS	STATE OF NUTRITION			MENTAL CAPACITY TEACHERS ESTIMATE			
				STOUT	MEDIUM	THIN	EXCEL- LENT	GOOD	MEDIUM	DULL
33	1	47.7	52.9		80.0	20.0	6.6	26.6	26.6	?
21	2	49.3	56.6	4.9	77.2	14.9	16.6	45.4	31.2	6.6
11	3	50.8	59.6	10.5	74.5	14.9	17.5	49.1	28.0	5.2

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